



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: December 5, 2019

Agenda Item: 2020-2021 Biennial Quota Ranges

Action Needed: Proposed

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 Minutes

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Background: FWP is seeking commission approval for the 2020-2021 quota ranges for limited entry licenses and permits. These quota ranges are adopted by the commission biennially during the regular season-setting cycle. Biologists and managers do not need commission approval to make changes to license/permit quotas that are within the adopted range. Changes outside adopted ranges require commission approval. This greatly expedites and simplifies annual quota adjustments. These quotas represent authority and limits to the number of licenses/permits that may be offered by FWP. Biologists often make final within-range quota adjustments after scheduled commission meetings but before licenses and permits are drawn. For example, biologists do not complete antelope surveys until mid to late July and sometimes wish to adjust license numbers based on their findings but need to do so before licenses are drawn in early August.

A table of the 648 different licenses and permits for which there are quota ranges is in the commission packet.

Alternatives and Analysis: Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, with additions, with deletions, or no change from 2019 (status quo). Not adopting these quota ranges would necessitate commission approval for all quota adjustments, which are sometimes desired just before licenses are drawn.

Public Involvement Process & Results: In addition to public comment taken during the Dec. 5 commission meeting, public comment will run through 5 p.m., Jan. 22, 2020. Any final adoptions will take place at the February 2020 commission meeting.

Proposed Motion: I move the commission adopt for public comment the 2020 and 2021 biennial quota ranges as proposed by FWP.